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# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK Editor-in-Chief

#### Peter King

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He has fallen into the abyss, Kevin Sullivan has. Down, down, he has fallen, spiraling into a pit from which there is no hope of being saved. Kevin Sullivan has turned his back on his friends, spit on his principles, and now openly hates the fans.

How could this happen? How could this young man change so suddenly? Sullivan himself offers one word in explanation.

"Money," he told me. "M-O-N-E-Y."

But what about the fans, Kevin?

"When I was being beaten by the men they hated, when they were cheering for me, did they really care about me?" Sullivan told me, his voice a harsh whisper. "They couldn't care if I died, so long as I smiled and waved and wrestled the men they called 'bad guys.' Well, let 'em go to hell. I'm not going to bleed for anyone except for me. It's all mine, now. The titles, the glory, the money. I don't want any fan thinking he's got a right to share in what I do."

Sullivan was toweling himself off after a brutal match against Steve Keirn. Once, Sullivan and Keirn were friends. In this match, they were warring beasts.

"People say shortcuts don't pay off," Sullivan said, pulling off his right boot. "Well, that only goes to show how dumb the fans are. When you go home at night, do you take the long way to your house or the shortest way possible? These fans make me sick."

Sullivan grabbed his robe and headed to the shower. The reporters in the dressing room were left with their thoughts. Most shook their heads and muttered what a fool Sullivan is to think like that. But as I walked out of the room, my eyes were attracted by a shiny object on a chair. It was a TV title belt. And it was Kevin Sullivan's.

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my method of DYNAMIC-TENSION starts giving you results you can feel and your friends will notice. Big. useful muscles. Gain pounds in weight where needed. Lose "pot belly." Take a good honest look at yourself! Are you proud of your body — or are you satisfied to go through life being just "half the man" you could be? No matter how ashamed you are of your present physical condition - or how old or young you are - the "sleeping" muscles already present in your body can turn you into a REAL man! Believe me, I know - because I was once a skinny, scrawny 97-pound half-alive weakling! People used to laugh at my build and make fun of me. I was ashamed to strip for sports or the beach . . . shy of girls ... afraid of healthy competition.

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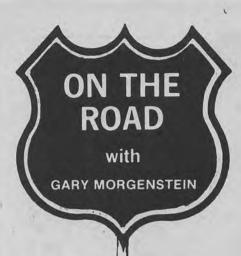
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MID-SOUTH COLISEUM MEMPHIS



Eastern millionaires whose goal was to bring glory to Hussein Arab and Baron Von Raschke. After a lengthy investigation, INSIDE WRESTLING'S Gary Morgenstein solved the international mystery.

(Editor's Note: Last month. Gary Morgenstein's search for the source of the international wrestling conspiracy led him to Florida. From there, he uncovered new, startling information, taking him to Washington, D.C.)

HE CHERRY BLOSSOMS were in full bloom. But neither I nor my quest cared about flowers. We had much more important items to discuss.

"I had been working as a lobbyist for a large, multinational corporation," said the gentleman. He was around 60, tufts of gray hair falling over a reddish face. His clear gray eyes stared fixedly at me while his drumming fingers betrayed his intense nervousness. "It came to my attention that certain concerns of certain people in this corporation, with headquarters in Europe and the

Middle East, centered on professional wrestling.

"At first, I thought it a mere fixation, a hobby, much the way someone would follow any other professional sport. Then I realized it went much, much deeper. A lot of money was sent to finance both a man named Baron Von Raschke and a man named Hussein Arab. The middleman in this deal was a gentleman known as The Sheik."

I held my breath, knowing months and months of investigations would soon cease. There would be an answer.

"The Sheik was close to both Von Raschke and Arab. However, there was jealousy between the two factions represented by Von Raschke and Arab. Basically, it centered around who would hold the ultimate power. Both the

(Continued on page 58)

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You might wonder why anyone would part with this information and not keep it all to themselves. The WINNING CALCULATOR has been designed by a world-famous scientist whose hobby has been horse racing for over 25 years. Naturally, he isn't able to be at every track for every race, but he developed the WINNING CAL-CULATOR to help the average guy (or gal) beat the track.

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**Behind** by Stu Saks

T ALL HAPPENED in 1937:

 The Supreme Court upheld Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal legislation.

 Joe Medwick won the triple crown in baseball as did War Admiral in horse racing.

 Joe DiMaggio led the American League in home runs.

 Japan invaded northern China in a war that would last eight years.

 Spencer Tracy won an Academy Award for his role in "Captains Courageous."

 Joseph Stalin continued his three-year program to liquidate his enemies in Russia.

 Joe Louis kayoed Jim Braddock to win the heavyweight championship of boxing.

Lou Thesz tugged on his thick white sweat socks, making sure they fit evenly an inch above the top of his wrestling boots. His strong hands pulled on the laces making sure the pressure was just as he likes it.

Thesz ran his hands along both boots, looked up at his visitor, and smiled. "Same routine everytime," he said.

The man was so calm, I wanted to grab him by the shoulders, shake him, and tell him how incredible he was to be doing what he was doing. Despite the urge, I had to contain myself. Thesz seemed to read me perfectly. "Oh, I know what you want to hear," he said. "You want to know what runs through a man's mind after over 6,000 matches and 48 years in the sport. You want to know what keeps me going when other men my age are getting ready to file (Continued on page 50)

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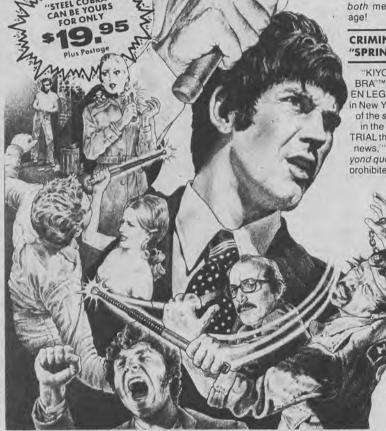
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# By Dan Shocket

THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE was decorated in the kind of understated richness that makes you know the man is successful. In fact, Dr. Emerson Fraser is perhaps the nation's leading sports medicine authority. Summoning me to his office proved he cared more for his patients than he does about money.

"Normally," the doctor told me, "I wouldn't discuss any athlete's case with the press. To be exact, this is the first, and I hope only time I have to do it. I'm not sure it's ethical for me to say what I have to say. Yet I know it would be immoral for me to say nothing.

"I also know I might be ruining my career. Athletes depend on doctors to keep their conditions confidential. It's not for a doctor to decide whether or not an athlete can risk permanent injury. My job is to protect them the best I can, advise them, and wish them luck. I'm paid for my silence as well as my healing skills.

"However, I can't keep silent about Michael Hayes, even if it means not another



Fans who have been taunting Michael Hayes for his relative inactivity as a member of the Georgia Champion Freebirds should stop, according to Dan Shocket. Hayes, Shocket learned, is probably the most courageous man in wrestling.

athlete will come to me. The risks are too great, especially now, for me to keep quiet. The fans must know the truth. A man's life is at stake.

"As you know, Hayes is one of The Freebirds. As things stand now, his corporate partners, Terry Gordy and Buddy Roberts, do most of the wrestling. Hayes has been called a coward for not wrestling more. I know how much the

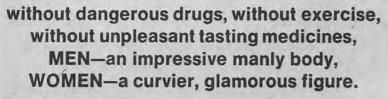
insults hurt Hayes. They might make him do something stupid.

"The truth is that Hayes is wrestling more than he should. I won't bore you with the technical reasons. The result, however, must be known by everyone. Mike's neck and spine are dangerously weak for a professional athlete. Continued assaults on the area could result in partial

(Continued on page 52)

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As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs ... as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be



... a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

#### THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear . . . if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit . . . embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly . . . your chest is too flat . . . your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be . . . If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh . . . so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

#### HERE IS OUR OFFER ...

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straightforward offer...

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your

#### GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try if for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't

started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better . . If you aren't convinced the GAIN

Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return

the empty bottle and get your money back immediately.

no questions asked!

VITAL NOTE
A current issue of a famous
medical journal reports on a

medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being varieties.

If you are in doubt . . . even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and a least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

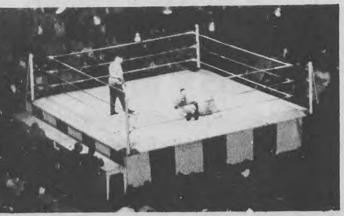
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STATE

SEND LETTERS TO:

# SINCERELY YOURS

BOX 48 ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. 11571



#### II SHOULD OUIT!

I have been a very loyal Mr. Wrestling II fan for a good many years, and, as sad as it is for me to tell him this, I believe Mr. Wrestling II should quit wrestling and devote himself to other aspects of the sport.

II has accomplished all he ever could in the ring, except maybe



Mr. Wrestling II could best serve wrestling as a teacher and not as an active participant, writes Alan Shea.

winning the NWA title from Harley Race. But II shouldn't let himself grow obsessed with winning the title. Nor should II allow himself to go into the gutter with a man like Mongolian Stomper.

Instead, II should go into managing other younger wrestlers. This way, his vast experience and wisdom could be passed on to yet another generation of wrestlers.

Or if II chooses not to manage, perhaps he can open a school, "The Mr. Wrestling II School for Wrestlers," and thus demonstrate his remarkable aptitude for teaching.



Moondog King holds Rick Martel as Moondog Rex fires a right. Reader Cecil Brannigan does not find The Moondogs so unusual.

Whatever II does decide to do, I think he is serving no further purpose as an active wrestler.

ALAN SHEA Atlanta, GA

#### GOOD DOGS

I don't know what all the fuss is about with The Moondogs. They seem perfectly normal to me. I bet all the people complaining about them really don't have much understanding of the human heart. Everyone has their own little quirks or eccentricities. So The Moondogs do some strange things, like biting Lou Albano or eating raw meat.

Haven't any of you fans quick to jump on Rex and King ever got so mad you wanted to bite someone? I know I have. And as for their eating raw meat, well, everyone has their own tastes in food. Look at the Japanese, who eat raw fish. I wouldn't eat that stuff but a lot of Japanese people seem to like it. So what if The Moondogs like their meat a little under-cooked? It doesn't make them crazy. Just judge them on their ring accomplishments and you'll see that The Moondogs are the best!

> CECIL BRANNIGAN Mount Vernon, NY

#### POOR PAUL

How long will it be before Paul Jones and his cronie Masked Superstar regret their betrayal? How many times must Ole and Gene Anderson batter in the supposed champions' skulls before they realize what an awful mistake they made turning their backs on

(Continued on page 54)





## SEVERAL TALLER

By the use of fraction the doctor claims to INCREASE THE HEIGHT of his patients by SEVERAL INCHES. (From reports in recent national newspapers.)

Dr. R. L. reports contributing to the INCREASE IN HEIGHT of his patients between the ages of 18 to 25 by as much as 3%". (From the annales of Physical Medicine)

"MAN GROWS to 40 and sometimes 50" according to late Curator of Physical Anthropology of the Smithsonian Institute. Some facts recently confirmed by Washington Doctor.

"The Influence of Exercise on Growth" revealed by U.S. Surgeon (From the Journal of Saperimental Medicine) A controlled group experiment.

"GAINS IN HEIGHT and weight as a result of experiments on boys from 12 to 17." Studies in Physical Development and Posture. (From U.S. Public Health Bulletin.)

Mr. C.A. claims and testifies to HEIGHT INCREASE of 1%" at age of 54.

Mr. A.S. writes to leading newspaper how father INCREASED HEIGHT by 15".

Medical literature reveals SPINAL GROWTH can be interrupted by excessive pressures and if deformity can be corrected, provided that they have not been irreversibly damaged — GROWTH WILL RESUME. N.Y. Academy of

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If you are SHORT STATURED regardless of your age or sex and want to know the facts about Short Stature and Height Increase in adults and youngeters and what Science has done in this field or if you are a parent who is concerned about your childs GROWTH AND STATURE, we strongly urge you to get the three (3) volumes listed below. It could be the most important step in your life.

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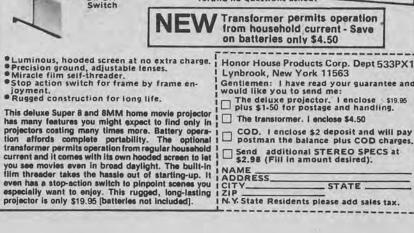


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# THE By STEVEN FARHOOD

#### SCOOP OF THE MONTH

The Masked Grappler was seen on Bourbon Street with his face uncovered, and those who saw him experienced the shock of their lives!

The infamous New Orleans rulebreaker was standing in front of Pat O'Brien's, a famous Bourbon Street bar, when two people—who did not know each other—claim he pulled off his mask for approximately 10 seconds.

"I don't know why he did it," said Joe Mancosi, a Denver real estate agent who was in New Orleans on business. "But I'll tell you one thing, I got so scared I ran into the nearest topless bar and ordered a double bourbon. I'm not even a wrestling fan and I didn't know who this guy was until all the chaos started, but I hope I never see him again."

The other eyewitness, a female tourist from Pierre, South Dakota, cannot comment on what she saw for good reason: she has been hospitalized in New Orleans, suffering from emotional distress.

"The woman will be kept there for a day or two," said a hospital spokesperson who has shielded the woman from the press. "What she saw on that wrestler's face was so horrifying that she hasn't even



There was quite a stir in New Orleans when Masked Grappler allegedly removed his mask on Bourbon Street. We don't know exactly what was under that mask, but one witness went scurrying to the police and another wound up in the hospital.

been able to explain it to us yet. I'll say this: whatever it was, it must've been pretty sickening for a person to have a reaction like that."

What does the Masked Grappler look like? The only person who could offer a fairly accurate description was Mancosi.

"Well, to start he had these hideous welts all over his cheeks, in all different colors," he said. "Some were brown and others were green. His chin didn't sem to have any skin on it. It was red and raw and dripping with pus. His eyes were of different shape and they weren't equidistant from his nose. And his forehead had these really strange wires hanging from it. They looked like copper wires."

Is Mancosi's description accurate? Did the Masked Grappler really take off his mask on Bourbon Street? And why would he do such a thing?

(Continued on page 56)

## WRESTLING'S

# FREALESI



THE WRESTLER (Published Monthly)



INSIDE WRESTLING (Published Monthly)

# SUBSCRIPTION DEAL

THE FABULOUS TWINS ARE YOURS FOR THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS . . . DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR DOOR AT NO EXTRA COST!

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# NAMES MAKI



**SWEET BROWN SUGAR** 

Because of his refusal to defend the Southern States title regularly, DICK SLATER has been stripped of the coveted belt. SWEET BROWN SUGAR defeated ASSASSIN #1 in the final round of the elimination tournament deciding the new champion . . . The NWA tag team championship changed hands when RAY STEVENS and IVAN KOLOFF defeated PAUL JONES and MASKED SUPERSTAR . . . Mid-Atlantic tag team kings DEWEY ROBERTSON and GEORGE WELLS have been defeated by MR. FUJI and TENRU for the area straps.

Did PAT PATTERSON actually break out of the Cobra Hold used by SGT. SLAUGHTER? Pat says he did, but Slaughter refuses to turn over the \$10,000 prize money he said he'd give Pat for breaking the grip. Why? "He did not break out," the Sgt. explains. "I released the hold because I was afraid I was going to kill him. I don't want to be court

martialed by my General, THE GRAND WIZARD, for killing a private like Patterson."

Rookie BRAD ARMSTRONG, son of the great BOB ARM-STRONG, is looking good in matches in Albama . . . TOMMY RICH has returned to Georgia and he is involved in a bloody war with THE FABULOUS FREEBIRDS . . . KEN PATERA is negotiating with Georgia promoters. Ken is looking for a shot at the Georgia title currently held by TONY ATLAS. As you know, Atlas and Patera have a feud that dates back several years . . . R.T. TYLER and



**WIZARD & SLAUGHTER** 

BOBBY JAGGERS no longer have the Florida tag team belts. The new champions are the unbelievable duo of ANDRE THE GIANT and DUSTY RHODES.

MAGNIFICENT MURACO is terrorizing WWF mats with his Asiatic Spike maneuver. Muraco is being managed by THE GRAND WIZARD . . . KING KONG MOSCA is climbing the WWF ratings with CAPTAIN LOU



**TOMMY RICH** 

ALBANO guiding his every move
. . . United States champion
RODDY PIPER says he may
come to the Northeast and
challenge BOB BACKLUND for
the WWF title . . . MIL
MASCARAS and JERRY



# N'NEWS

# Bill Apter reporting...

BRISCO teamed in Puerto Rico against TERRY FUNK and DORY FUNK JR. Ringside observers report that Mil and Jerry make a great tag team duo.

OTTO WANZ, the 6-3, 334-pound champion of Germany, was recently seen in Florida scouting possible future opponents . . . JUNKYARD DOG says that TED DiBIASE is one of the finest tag team partners he has ever had . . . DENNIS CONDRY is a lucky man. Any time he is in trouble during a match, his good friend RANDY ROSE is there to lend a hand. Also, luckily for Condry, Rose is never spotted by the referees.

As you probably know by now, SIR OLIVER HUMPERDINK is now managing THE ASSASSINS. "How I ever spent so much time with that smelly DUSTY RHODES is beyond me," Humperdink says . . . JERRY STUBBS, wrestling in the



**JERRY STUBBS** 



**EATON VS. II** 

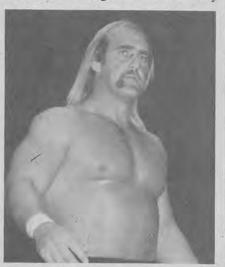
Alabama area, tells us that he once played pro baseball. Why did he quit and become a wrestling star? "Simple," Jerry says. "I enjoy one-on-one competition. I don't like to be part of a team. That's why you don't see me tag teaming very often."

GART HART has imported another Oriental star beside KABUKI to make life miserable for the VON ERICH FAMILY. His name is CHAN CHUNG and he is one of the Orient's finest martial arts experts . . . JOHN TOLOS took on VICTOR RIVERA in a bloody war in California. The fans cheered Victor for the first time in years. How did it feel? "No comment," exclaimed Rivera.

"I'll teach him the meaning of viciousness!" were the words MAD DOG VACHON exclaimed before he went into battle against JIMMY SNUKA in Toronto. It was one of the most violent battles

in years, and Snuka proved he can be just as vicious as the master of brutality, Vachon . . . DOS CARAS was lucky to get out of his California match with MIKE MASTERS alive. When Caras attempted to pin Masters, some of Mike's friends ran into the ring and began stomping the masked man. Dos' friends came to his rescue and he escaped serious injury.

Young BOBBY EATON has left Tennessee and is now wrestling in Georgia. A recent match against MR. WRESTLING II saw the rookie Eaton give II some very



**HULK HOGAN** 

anxious moments . . . Rumors persist that HULK HOGAN is going to wrestle in Tennessee . . . THE SPOILER is returning to Texas mats . . . NWA Junior Heavyweight Champion LES THORNTON lost a non-title bout to JERRY BRISCO. When will Jerry get a return title go? "Never," says Thornton. "He obviously paid the referee to give me a fast count. I only give honest men a chance at my title."

That's all for now. See you next month!

## COLLECTOR'S CORNER)

Some of the back issues in this ad have not been offered for sale for more than 25 years. All of these extremely rare magazines are from the personal collection of Stanley Weston, owner of the world's largest collection of wrestling memorabilia. This is indeed a once in a lifetime opportunity for the true collector to finally own these highly treasured but until now elusive editions. Obviously, the supplies of these issues is very limited, and they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. It is for that reason we urge you to list substitute choices when you order. This will avoid time wasted writing back and forth should a particular issue be sold out. The prices quoted are based on the rarity of the issue and the amount of available copies. For lastest service, payment should be made by money order or certified check. While cash will be accepted, we cannot assume responsibility when it is sent through the mails. All sales are final and no exchanges will be made.

#### **BOXING & WRESTLING**

After five issues, WRESTLING magazine changed its name to BOXING & WRESTLING. Continuing its high standard in wrestling, the addition of boxing stories made it one of the most popular sports magazines of the '50s. Some of the back issues listed in this ad can be obtained now by the general public for the first time in more than 25 years. As you would expect, supplies are very, very limited.

**DECEMBER 1951 Boxing**—Maxim Beats Sailor Murphy, Gavilan Beats Billy Graham, Jim Corbett, Knockout Artists. Best Prospects, New Champion Randy Turpin, Upsets, Jersey Joe Walcott, Ratings, Marciano Challenges Walcott, Sandy Saddler (Life Story), Tex Rickard, Famous Fights of the Past, Fights of the Month

Wrestling—Verne Gagne, Ratings, TV Announcer Dennis James, Sandor Szabo, Matches of the Month, Pet Peeve, Sammy Berg, Mae Weston \$25

JANUARY 1952 Boxing—Pep vs Saddler, Gans vs. Kid Lavigne, Robinson vs. Turpin, Mickey Walker, Tricksters, Tony Janiro, Barney Ross's Record, Tex Rickard, Roland LaStarza, Leonard vs. Kilbane, Rocky Marciano, Ratings, Knockouts

Wrestling—Yvon Robert Wrestling Whirl, Sky Hi Lee, Matches of the Month Pacific Coast Championship, George Hackenschmidt, Indian Wrestlers, Buffy Silverstein Ratings Londos vs Shikat \$25

FEBRUARY 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Trouble with Boxing, Young Prospects, Tony Canzoner, Bob Fitzsimmons, Bocky Graziano, Unusual Incidents, Predictions for 1952. Willie Lewis vs. Sailor Burke, Ratings (Marciano Fighter of Month), Tex Rickard Story

Wreatling—Dirty Duseks, Cora Combs, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, The Original Terrible Turk, How to Improve Wrestling, Ratings \$25

JUNE 1952 Boxing—Fights of the Month, Gil Turner, Max Schmeling, Jack Johnson, Ratings, Sfillman's Gym, Chico Vejar, Flyweights and Bantamweights. Tex Rickard Story, Paddy DeMarco, Max Baer's Record

Wrestling—Lord Carlton, Ratings, Mars Bennett, Human Sides, Tony Lanza, Wrestling Whirl, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson, Matches of Month, San Francisco Promoter Joe Malcewicz \$25

SOLD OUT esz.

AUGUST 1952 BoxIng—Highlights, Paddy Young, Sammy Mandell, Trainer Doc Bagler, Jack Dempsey, Keeny Teran

Ratings. Ivan Kamiron. ..

Old

and Gil Cadilli. Tex Rickard Story, Lew Tendler, TV From Miami, From Knockdown to Victory, Batings Wrestling—Dirty Dick Raines, Good Old Days, Whipper Watson How Girl Wrestlers Keep Fit, Batings, Adrian Baillargeon, Wrestling Whirl, Matches of Month, Mighty

SEPTEMBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights, Fighting Italians, George Arauji, Pancho Villa, Trainer Charlie Goldman, Willie Troy, Ratings, Boxing Confidential, Gene Tunney, Jackie Fields

Wrestling—Bobby Managoff Lou Thesz's Record. Ratings Matches of Month Tim Geohagen William Muldoon Wrestling Whirl \$25

OCTOBER 1952 Boxing—Highlights (Walcott vs. Charles, Carter loses to Salas, etc.). Lauro Salas, Stanley Ketcfiel, Irish Champions, Chuck Davey, Max Schmelung, Ratings,

Joe Miceli, Strange Experiences, Willie Pep tells about his loss to Sandy Saddler, Boxing Medicine Man Dr. Nardiello Wrestling—Riki Dozan, Their Hardest Battles, Matches of Month. Ray Gunkel, Tough Turks, Wrestling Whirl, Ratings, Record of Verne Gagne

AP Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Billy Gr Tiger Jones vs. Johnny Br Johns Vs. Johns

MAY 1953 Boxing—Fighting Talk, Fights in Review (Danny Nardico upsets Jake LaMotta, Rocky Castellani beats Tiger Jones). Kid Gavilan kayoes Chuck Davey to retain crown. Roland LaStarza tops Rex Layne, The Dundee Brothers, Baltimore's Great Fighters, Saga of John Morrissey, Tommy Loughran, Ratings, Middleweight Muddle, Charlie White

Wrestling—Fred Curry, Elvira Snodgrass, Matches of Month, Great Togo, Ruffy Silverstein, Trading Holds, Record of Buddy Rogers, Ratings, Wrestling Whiri, Fan Clubs \$30

OC MC Replace Fighting Talk, Fights of the Raymond, Arthur Pe Bir SOLD OUT Mestling Park Frank Gotch Wrestling Whirl, Fair ding Holds \$30

DECEMBER 1954 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Matches of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ezzard Charles writes about Marciano, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Tony DeMatco, Jimmy Braddock, Maxie Rosenbloom's Life, Paul Andrews, Tony Galento vs. Lou Nova, Benny Leonard, Quiz, Dempsey vs. Fred Fulton, Quiz

Leonard, Quiz. Dempsey vs. Fred Fulton, Quiz. Wrestling—Bob. Orton. Matches of Month. Cowboy. Carlson. Mars Bennett, California Champs. Al Costello, Wrestling Whirt. Gossip, Fan Clubs. \$25

FEBRUARY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics, Talk, Fights of Month, Nino Valdez Says "Fil Beat Marciano." Billy Petrolle's Life, Carmen Basilio Challenges Johnny Saxton, Bare Knuckle Fighters, Lou Stillman, Jim Corbett vs. Joe Choynski, Jack Delany, Jack Johnson Compared to Modern Fighters, Why Black Fighters Are Tops, Quiz, Ratings, Jimmy McLarnin.

Fighters Are Tops, Quiz, Ratings, Jimmy McLarnin Wrestling—Billy Varga, Ratings, Violet Vlann, Verne Gagne, Speaks Qut, Matches of Month, Sonny Myers, Wrestling Whirf, Gossip, How To Start A Fan Club \$25

MARCH 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk Fights of Month, Kid Gavilan, Cisco Andrade, Eugene Criqui, Ratings, Writer Dan Parker, Best Heavyweight Of All Charley Powell, Youg Griffo, Kid McCov vs Tomy Sharkey Willie Ritchie, Quiz, Pedro Montanez.

Wrestling—Gorgeous George, Matches of Month, Jack Wilzig, Ike Eakins Texas Tough Guys, Little Black Dynamite Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs. \$25

APRIL 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Archie Moore Blasts Marciano, Robert Coben, Joe Choynski's Life Strike By Managers Guild, Boardwalk Billy Smith Ad Wolgast vs. Joe Rivers, Fake Fights, St. Nicks Arena, TV. Fights of 1954. Paul Berlienbach, Ourz Ratings. \$25.

MAY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Jimmy Carter, Trainer Whitey Birnstein's Secrets, Pancho Villa's Life, Frankie Rytf, Ray Robinson's Comeback, Les Darcy, Charley Norkus, Max Baer Kayoes Max Schmelling. Bob Fitzsimmons, Quiz, Ratings, Parney Ross

Wrestling—Primo Carnera, Roy McClarity, Matches of Month, Southwest Champs, Great Scott, Killer Kowalski Strength Secrets, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up of Buddy Rogers \$20

JUNE 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Eduardo Lausse, Tony Canzoner's Life. Tiger Jones and Bobby Jones. How Marciano is Managed, Lou Brouillard's Life. Bob Baker, Matchmaker Teddy Brenner. Ten Deadliest Punches, Tommy Ryan vs. Sandow, Ruby Goldstein, Ratinss, Ouiz

Sandow, Ruby Goldstein, Ratings, Quiz Wrestling—Yukon Eric, Pacific Coast Powerhouses, Billy Goelz, Wrestling Whirl, Manuel Cortez, Matches of Month, Bob Geigel, Fan Clubs, Full Oolor Pinup of Billy Varga \$25

JULY 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Ediforial, Critics Talk, Rocky Marciano Crushes Don Cockell, Fights of Month, Chico Vejar, Tony Canzoneri's Life (conclusion), Carmen Basilio describes his war with Tony DeMarco, Fight Nite At St. Nicks, Jimmy Soo, Fantasy Fight with Joe Walcott, Ludwig Lightburn, Benny Leonard vs. Ever Hammer, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, Ratings, Quiz

Wrestling—Tiger Joe Marsh, Matches of Month, Timmy Geohagen, TV Stars, Yukon Eric Tells How To Build Muscles, Was Henri DeGlane a Nazi? Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs, Full Color Pinup of Frankie Talaber \$25

AUGUST 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Floyd Patterson, Tony DeMarco, Boxing's Mouthpiece, Mickey Walker, Joe Rowan, Fritzie Zivic batters Henry Armstrong, Fighting Irish, Joey Lopes, Sam Langford vs. Stanley Ketchel, Quiz, Luis Firpo, Batings

Wrestling—'Legs' Langevin, Yukon Eric, Matches of Month, Promoter Eddie Quinn, Most Dangerous Holds, Joe Cassius, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Full Color Pin Up Of Leo Nomellini \$25

SEPTEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Castellani, Promoter Jim Norris, Fight Afternoon, Rudy Garcia, Abe Attell, Billy Graham Quits, Terry McGovern vs. Pedler Palmer, Pat McMurtry, Al Singer, Willie Jackson, Ratings, Quiz

Wrestling—Leo Nomelline, Do Black Wrestlers Get Fair Shake? Matches of Month, Crazy Kalmikofts, Hans Schnabel Wrestling Whirl, Al & Tiny Mills, Gossip, Wrestling Stinks! Full Color Pin Up of Big Bill Miller \$25

OCTOBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, The Real Marciano, Frankie Carbo, Carmen Basilio, John L. Sullivan vs. Charley Mitchell, Carmelo Costa, Jack Dempsey (Part 1), Paddy Young, Archie Moore, Joe Benjamin, Ratings, Quiz

Wrestling—Hans Herman, Matches of Month, Strangler Lewis, One World's Title! Sky Hi Lee, Wrestling Whirl, Kamikaze Kinji, Hans Schmidt, Full Color Pin Up of Lord Blears \$25

NOVEMBER 1955 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Marciano Kayoes Archie Moore, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, What Made Dempsey A Killer? 'Bud' Smith, Yama Bahama, Joe Gans vs Rule Turner, Strategy, Tony Puleo, Great Trainers, Ratings, Johnny Dundee, Johnny Kilbane, Quiz

Wrestling—Risk Dozan, Matches of Month, Don Arnold, Colorful Characters, Hindo Wrestlers, Chris Tolos, Malcolm Brenner, Full Color Pin Up of Pal O'Connor \$25

JANUARY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Joey Giambra upsets Bobo Olson, Joe Lynch, Bay Drake, Mystery of Joe Walcott Solved, Training Camps, Jimmy Slattery, Chris Christensen, Bare Knuckle Brawl-Tom Johnson vs. Isaac Perrins, Petey Sarron, Charley White, Ratings, Quiz

Wrestling—Why Women Wrestle Wrestling Whirl, Bill Fletcher, Ivan Padubny Bearded Wrestlers, Matches of Month, Art Michalek Gossip, Fan Clubs \$25

FEBRUARY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Ralph Dupas, Young Otto, Willie Pep. Billy Conn. Nonpariel Dempsey vs. George LaBlanche, Joe Micel, Boxing Lesson, I.B.C., Freddie Steele, Ratings, Ouiz

Wrestling—Pepper Gomez, June Byers vs. Babs Wingo, Matches of Month, French Angel, Karl Davis, Best Rookies, Lou Thesz, Wrestling Whirl, Fan Clubs \$25

MARCH 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Chuck Spieser, Isaac Logart, Ratings, Luis Firpo's Life, Raton Macias, Jim Jeffries vs. Ji Corbett, Tiger Jones, Boxing Lesson, Review of 1955, Frankie Genaro, Quiz

Wrestling—Leo 'The Lion' Newman, Matches of Month, Doc Gallagher Terrible Turk, Breast Cancer and Girl Wrestlers. Barefoot Wrestlers, Wrestling Whirl, Gossip, Wives of Wrestlers

APRIL 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Commissioner Helfand, Pete Herman, Regaining Titles, Bobby Boyd, Ace Hudkins: Lite, George Dixon vs. Solly Smith, Joe Benjamin, Louis 'Kid' Kaplan, Quiz \$25

MAY 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, How Floyd Patterson Will Fight Marciano, Ray Robinson's Problems, Jackie 'Kid' Berg's Life, Yama Bahama, 'Kid' Lavigne, Combating TV, Sam Langford, Bob Murphy, Boxing Lesson, Carl Tremaine, Ratings, Quiz Wrestling—Rocca, Ada Ash, Matches of Month, Old Timers, Prince Maivia, Wrestling Whirl, Jerry Graham. Red Bastien, Gossip.

JUNE 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Cisco Andrade, Ludwig Lightburn, Remembering Chicago, Tony Zale's Life, Rory Calhoun, Ouiz, Ratings, Tom Sharkey vs. Peter Maher by Jim Corbett, Aurello Herrera, Dave Shade, Readers' Gripe Wrestling—Hard Boiled' Haggerty, Wrestling Whirl, John Pesek, Killer Kówalski, Texas Hot Spot, Powerhouses, Matches of Month, Fan Clubs, Gossip \$25

JULY 1956 BoxIng—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Rocky Marciano, Max Schmeling's Life, Johnny Saxton, John L. Sullivan, Miguel Berrios, Larry Boardman, Ouiz, Ratings, Joe Gans vs. 'Elbow's McFadden, Hollywood Legion Stadium, Ritchie Mitchell Wrestling—Lord Blears, Matches of Month, Mexican Stars, Ramoria TeSelle, Danno O'Mahoney, Wrestling Whirl, Roy Shire, TV Wrestling; Gossip \$25

AUGUST 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Bob Fitzsimmons vs. Peter Maher, Cherif Hamia, John Holman, Jess Willard's Life, Bucking TV, Johnny Summerlin, Joe Choynski, Earl Mastro, Ratings, Bob Armstrong, Quiz, Gossio

Wrestling—George Drake, Wrestling Whirl, Chief Kit Fox, Matches of Month, Yvon Robert (Part 1), Why Wrestlers Bleach Their Hair, Bob Geigel, Gossip \$25

SEPTEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, 'Hurricane' Jackson, Will Marciano Fight Again? Mike McTigue, Bob Baker, Joey Giardello vs, Boxing Commission, Strange Anecdotes, Eddie Machen Johnny Coulon, Paul Jorgensen, Terry McGovern vs. Oscar Gardner, Mike Gibbons, Ratings, Ouiz Letters.

Wrestling Buddy Rogers. Whipper Watson Wins Title From Thesz, Art of Needling, Yvon Roberts (Part 2), Wrestling Whirl, Dot Dotson, Matches of Month, Dick Nelson, Questions & Answers \$25

OCTOBER 1956 BoxIng—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Willie Pastrano, Henry Armstrong's Life, Archie Moore, Jimmy McLarnin, Charley Joseph, Jim Jeffries, Jimmy Soo, Boxing Lesson, Kid Chocolate, Ratings, Quiz, Letters

Wrestling—Don Leo Jonathan, Wrestling Whirl, Fred Blassie, Billy Varga's Wife, Dangers of Wrestling, Yvon Robert (Part 3), Matches of Month, Letters, Fan Club \$25

NOVEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Tony DeMarco, Art Aragon, Mario D'Agata, Tony Anthony, King Levinsky's Life, Johnny Busso, Joe Louis vs. John Henry Lewis, Ken Overlin, Ratings, Lockport Jimmy Duffy, Kid McCoy vs. Jim Stewart, Quiz

Wrestling—Bobby Managoff, Around the Circuit, Slave Girl Moolah, Ratings, Matches of MOnth, Yvon Robert (Fart 4), George Hubert, Fan Clubs, Letters \$25

DECEMBER 1956 Boxing—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Gene Fullmer, Jack Dempsey vs. Billy Miske, Harold Carter, Tex Class Fights, Jinx of College Fighters, Barney Ross vs. Jimmy McLarnin, Alex Miteff, Eddie 'Babe' Risko, Leonard Del Genio, Frank Battaglia, Ratings, Letters

Wrestling—John Paul Hennig, Wrestling Whirl, Rose Roman, Tag Team Situation, Matches of Month, Jim Wright, Bull Montana's Wife, Are Fans Crazy? Letters\$25

JANUARY 1957 BoxIng—Eddie Borden Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Carmen Basilio, Fighter of Year, Mike Gibbons' Life, Predicting the Champs in 1957, Joe Brown, Greatest Lightweights of All Time, Stanley Ketchel, Boxing Lesson, Tommy Loughran beats Jim Braddock, Bill Brennan, Ratings, Quiz, Letters

Wrestling—Carl Engstrom, Greatest Champions of All Time Bronko Nagurski, Matches of Month, Johnny Barend Wrestling Whirl, Tito Carreon, Comparing Old and New, Letters

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JANUARY 1958 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Critics Talk, Fights of Month, Jimmy Braddock vs. Tommy Farr, Floyd Patterson, Johnny Kilbane, Mike O'Dowd, Chalky Wright, Carmen Basilio, Jimmy Wilde's Life, World's Ten Best, Fighters, Ouiz, Fighters Turned Actor, Bobing Lesson, Bare Knuckle Feature, Leach Cross Kayoes Yourn Otto, Letters, Remember When, Ratings

Wrestling—Ricki Starr, The Bruiser, Canadian Trail, Fan Clubs, Letters, Matches of Month \$25

FEBRUARY 1958 Boxing—TV Jottings, Letters, Fights of Month, Louis vs. Marciano, Robinson vs. LaMotta, Walcott vs. Charles, Pep vs. Saddler, Basilio vs. DeMarco, Light Heavyweight History, Punch that Shocked World (Jack Sharkey Fouls Max Schmeling), Preview of 1958, Born Killer (Fiction), Britain's Boxing Booths, Ray Robinson's Career in Pictures, Picking Winners, Ouiz, Gene Tunney-Georges Carpentier Feud, Al McCoy, Critics Talk

Career in Pictures, Picking Winners, Quiz, Gene Tunney-Georges Carpentier Feud, Al McCoy, Critics Talk Wrestling—Mickey Gold, The Garibaldis, Smith Brothers, Gypsy Joe, The Gallaghers, How Women React to Wrestlers, Photo Highlights, Results of Month, Fan Clubs

APRIL 1958 Boxing—Stanley Weston Editorial, Letters, Fights of Month, Ratings, Carmen Basilio—Fighter of the Year. Complete Review of 1957 featuring Records, Results, Weights, Photos (Eight Pages), Bob Fitzsimmons, History of the Middleweights, Kid Chocolate Beats Fidel LaBarba, John L. Sullivan's Life, Barney Ross' Book, Remember When

Wreatling—Wrestlers in Movies, Sexiest Girl Wrestlers-Penny Banner and Barbara Baker, Predictions for 1958, Is The Champion Lou Thesz or Ed Carpentier? Sellout at Ithe Garden, Photos of Month, Results of Month

#### WRESTLING REVUE

WRESTLING REVUE (1959-1964) is thought to be the finest series of wrestling magazines ever published. These beautiful editions (all edited and published by Stanley Weston) set a standard by which all of today's wrestling magazines are judged. The magnificent back issues in this ad, many of which contain spectacular full-color inserts, have been unavailable to the public for more than 10 years. Supplies of these collector's tressures are very limited.

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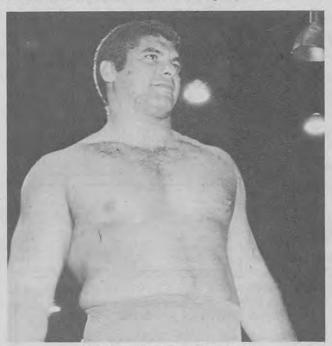
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# Brock's AMB Brock's AMB SPLAME

NEW YORK, NY: One of my least favorite people in the whole wide world is in the WWF. Fellow by the name of Don Muraco. At first glance, you'd probably think Muraco falls into that neat category of talented-man-wasting-skills-as-rulebreaker. Well, I think Muraco's way overrated. He's got a big mouth and little else. Oh, I expect the mail to come in, wondering why Brock is getting on this guy's case. I happen to believe there should be certain standards before you just toss someone into the superstar classification. Or even star category. With Grand



**MAGNIFICENT MURACO** 

Wizard as his manager, I fully expect Muraco's treachery to blossom in the WWF. Don't worry, Backlund. He's yellow.

RICHMOND, VA: Made a big mistake en route to the Mid-Atlantic for the following story about George Wells. Accepted an offer from Steve Farhood and his buddy "Longshot" Caputo. They

were supposed to drive me to Philadelphia where I'd get a connecting flight to Richmond. Instead they insisted on stopping off in Atlantic City. Now of Matt is way ahead at the roulette wheel when Farhood rushes over, insisting he needs a little stake for his new "fool-proof formula." The kid grabs my chips and five minutes later, returns, saying I owe a big palooka with a tic-tac-toe scar on his nose 300 bucks. It took a lot of talking to get myself out of this one. As for Farhood and Longshot, last I saw of them they were trying to get gas money by betting winos Farhood couldn't eat his T-shirt. But back to George Wells. Wells, co-holder of the Mid-Atlantic tag team title with Dewey Robertson, is a marvelously versatile wrestler. This guy can overwhelm a foe with strength, deceive a guy with brains, or fly circles around him with aerial maneuvers. I'll bet (oh-oh) the name of George Wells will be nationally known very, very soon.



**GEORGE WELLS** 

Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

ATLANTA, GA: What is it that I like about Don Carson? Currently managing Mongolian Stomper, Carson exudes a wily cunning I find appealing. Everyone knows Carson is trying to take them to the cleaners, convince them his



**DON CARSON & MONGOLIAN STOMPER** 

man is impregnable, that Mr. Wrestling II is finished, etc., etc. But Carson knows how to manage a man. He knows how to select the proper opponents, plan the proper strategy, get an edge in psychological warfare, of which he is a master. Even though his methods appall me at times and his top guy, Stomper, is a lunatic, I think a guy like Carson is healthy for the sport. Again, just my personal opinion, but that's what they pay me for. Little as that might be.

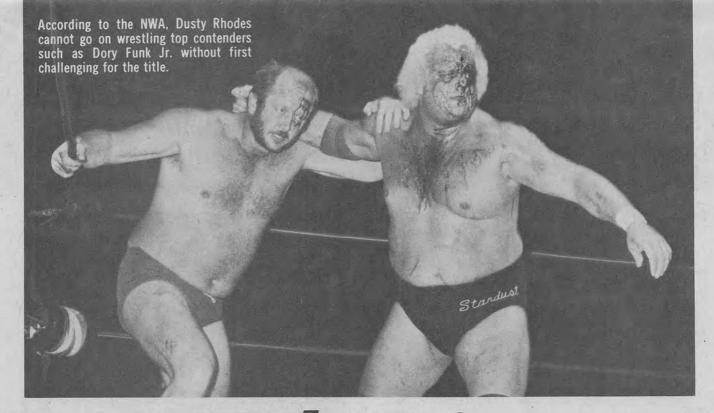
MEMPHIS, TN: So Jerry Lawler has returned has he? I for one welcome the self-proclaimed King of Memphis back into the wrestling wars. On sheer talent, Lawler ranks among the very top in the sport. He has the strength, the speed,



KING JERRY LAWLER

and the brains to defeat any opponent. As you might gather, I'm an unabashed Lawler fan. But he has taken on quite an opponent in Jimmy Hart, his former manager. You can never underestimate Hart's capacity for cunning. Lawler had better be very, very careful if he is to be successful in this war. He shouldn't allow pentup hatred to obscure his reasoning. He has to approach this as coolly as anyone with his grudge ever can. Simply wanted to give this little bit of advice to a guy I really admire.

MINNEAPOLIS, MN: They've been strangely silent for a little while, this team of Nick Bockwinkel and Bobby Heenan. Anyone who ever thought Bockwinkel abandoned dreams of regaining the AWA title from arch-rival Verne Gagne had to be out of his mind. Now it seems Heenan and Bockwinkel have hatched a plot to give Bockwinkel mastery of the Sleeper Hold. If I had any money left over, I would bet on Bockwinkel's eventual success.



# The NWA's Ultimatum To Dusty Rhodes: WRESTLE RACE... OR YOU ARE THROUGH!

SLEEPLESS BAGS DROOPED beneath Dusty Rhodes' red eyes. Despite his physical and mental exhaustion, he couldn't sit still, alternately leaping off the chair and pacing around the room, then fiddling with the contents of his locker.

For the past few days, Rhodes had been agonizing over a directive handed him by the NWA Commissioner's office.

"I don't know what the devil I'm gonna do," said Rhodes.

After yet another painfully frustrating attempt to wrest away Harley race's NWA crown, Rhodes made a public announcement which shocked

While Dusty has traveled throughout the world to meet the best competition, he has rejected offers to challenge Harley Race for his NWA title. Rhodes locks up Ivan Koloff's leg (below).



Dusty Rhodes faces an extremely difficult, painful decision. As a matter of conscience, Rhodes refuses to wrestle NWA champion Harley Race while Race holds the title. But failure to face Rhodes could result in The American Dream's departure from the NWA. What will Rhodes do?



the wrestling world.

"As long as Race holds the NWA title, I am not going to wrestle for the title. I ain't gonna wrestle Race and that's the end of it," Rhodes said at that time.

A man of immense integrity, Rhodes stuck to his principles. Not that he wasn't tempted.

"Some promoters offered real big bucks to close a match with me and Race," said the man known as The American Dream. "But I told 'em, no, no, no."

Fans bombarded Rhodes with written pleas to wrestle Race one more time.

"Much as I love my fans, I explained in all my letters that I just couldn't wrestle Race

again," said Rhodes.

Even Race dangled an offer before Rhodes.

"He said he'd wrestle me, like he was doin' me a favor. I know he'd be tryin' to get me into another match just so he could pull some kinda stunt and cheat his way outta trouble again," said Rhodes.

Rhodes could refuse the promoters. Rhodes could refuse the fans. Rhodes could refuse Race. But Rhodes cannot disobey the NWA.

"Here, wanna hear what they said?" Rhodes brandished the document before his eyes. "Lemme read this to you and then you tell me what I oughta



Rhodes captured the title from Race briefly, but had to defend his title in the rematch with a broken arm (left) as the result of a pre-match attack by Terry Funk (battling Dusty, above).

do." Rhodes sat, actually slumped onto a stool.

"It has come to the attention of these NWA offices that, as a top-ranked contender, you have failed to accept offers to wrestle National Wrestling Alliance champion Harley Race. Unless you accept offers to wrestle NWA champion Harley Race, you will be removed from the Alliance. You have 16 days to respond to this document."

Rhodes rose and slumped against the locker. For anyone who has watched this talented, courageous man over the years, the sight of Rhodes uncertain and dispirited is quite jolting, to

(Continued on page 62)

# HOTSEAT

## RODDY PIPER

# "RICK STEAMBOAT CAN LICK MY SHOES!"

HE HAS QUITE literally taken the entire Mid-Atlantic area by storm. Of Scottish descent. this proud nationalist carries his heritage into the ring, replete with kilts and bagpipes. Others might find his brutality and vicious cunning offensive. Many area wrestlers resent, despise, and fear the new United States heavyweight champion. For all the controversy his every action provokes, he is remarkably self-assured. He is definitely a man with a purpose and a clear vision of what he wants and how he must go about realizing his dreams. He is Roddy Piper.

#### INTERVIEW CONDUCTED BY STU SAKS

- Q: Are you surprised you were able to defeat Ric Flair for the United States heavyweight title?
- A: Defeating men of Flair's low intellectual abilities and piddling physical skills is not exactly a surprise. That he didn't collapse within minutes

- was the only surprise.
- Q: Certainly you can't say Flair isn't talented?
- A: If he's so talented then why isn't he still champion?

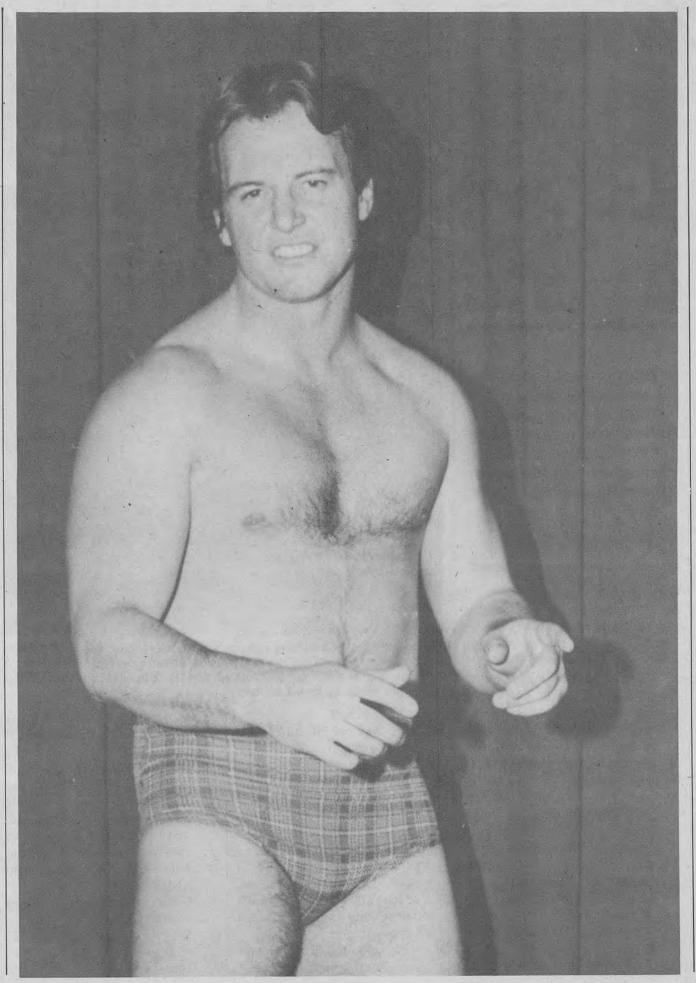
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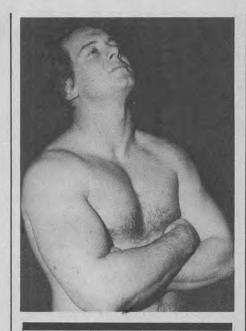
That is what the sport is all about, winning and losing. I have no patience for losers . . . Steamboat will not pay the price of success and I cannot respect that.

99

- Q: Winning and losing doesn't necessarily determine a man's talent.
- A: That's the *only* determinant of skill. That is what this sport is all about, winning and losing. I have no patience for losers.
- Q: So you think the only measure of a man's worth are the number of titles he has won?

- A: What are you going to measure worth by, standards set by losers?
- Q: What does that mean?
- A: It means standards are often set by losers. For example, a man like Rick Steamboat, and I hesitate to call him a man. Since Steamboat has consistently been unable to hold a major title, he acts as if the love of idiotic fans is more important than success.
- Q: Steamboat considers winning a title more important.
- A: Ah, but will he pay the price for that success? Is he willing to devise a brilliant formula like I have if it means getting his pretty face bashed in, accept the punishment and the sacrifices? Or is he content to complain and turn to his moronic fans who would support a rooster if he said nice things about them? No, Steamboat will not pay the price of success and I cannot respect that. A man like Steamboat has only one function.



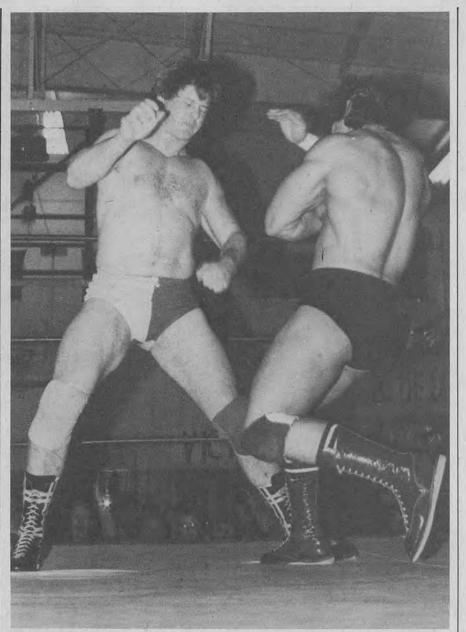


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A man content to spew out philosophy is nothing more than a baboon. You must have the courage of your convictions to act upon that philosophy . . . Or else shut up forever.

99

- Q: Which is?
- A: Rick Steamboat can lick my shoes! There is nothing else he is good for, that is the sum and substance of his skills. He can quote his ridiculous philosophies all he wants because as one who is well-versed in all universal thoughts, I know he is simply perverting that philosophy.
- Q: In what way?
- A: A man content only to spew out philosophy is nothing more than a baboon. You must have the courage of your convictions to act upon that philosophy. You must be willing to go out into the world and prove that your way is best. Or else shut up forever.
- Q: And that is the way of



Piper gets the best of a mid-ring collision with Rick Steamboat. Roddy feels that he gets the better of Steamboat in every situation. According to Piper, Steamboat can philosophize all he wants, but if he does not have the skills or courage behind him to back up the words, he should not talk.

Roddy Piper?

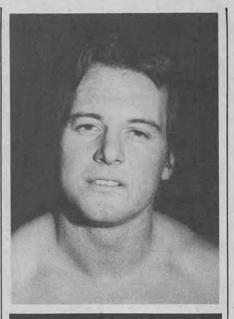
- A: The way of Roddy Piper shows strength and courage, both physical and mental.
- Q: You can't use one without the other, right?
- A: I have been blessed with a great mind, but I have spent hours perfecting and expanding my intelligence. I have read and pondered, which allows me to easily defeat nitwits like Masked Superstar.
- Q: Now hold on, Masked Superstar is quite intelligent.
- A: According to your lowly standards. You think Superstar, and I've never heard of a worse name for a man so illequipped, is bright. Maybe that is because you are quite stupid and think anyone who can string together more than two words at once has a brain.
- Q: My intelligence is not in question.
- A: Correct, I never pursue empty arguments.
- Q: Why don't we get back to wrestling?
- A: Fine.



From a standing position, Piper leaps high in the air to land his knees in Steamboat's face. Roddy claims to have developed a new direction for professional wrestling in which the body is developed to respond to the tremendous potential of the mind. So far, he says, he is the only one who has perfected the method.

- Q: Now that you are United States heavyweight champion, what are your plans?
- A: In what order?
- O: Are there a lot?
- A: You think I'm like a Steamboat or Flair or Superstar with just one thought dving of lonliness? I have a complete and exhaustive master plan.
- Q: Would you care to tell the world?
- A: Parts. Other components of the strategy are so complex that your average human being cannot possibly comprehend it.
- Q: Could you give us a few plans?
- A: My pleasure. And I even brought along a bottle of aspirin for the migraine you will surely suffer trying to understand me.

- I prefer a cold compress. 0:
- Whatever. As United States heavyweight champion, intend on revolutionizing all of professional wrestling. Once my master plan is in place, all wrestlers will become obsolete. I will be the prototype of a new race of professional wrestlers. Those I choose to be my disciples shall be brought along until all of wrestling is stamped with my greatness.
- Q: What is this revolution?
- A: Well, again, we're getting into very complex areas. It must begin with the perfect harmony of mind and body. The human mind has vast potential no one, except perhaps myself and Albert Einstein, can explore. I have A: It was your pleasure.



66 I intend on revolutionizing all of professional wrestling. Once my master plan is in place, all wrestlers will become obsolete. I will be the prototype of a new race of professional wrestlers.

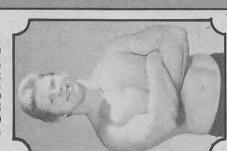
dashed through the dark recesses of knowledge and brought back to this lowly human race a greater wisdom and genius than the world has ever known. All my principles of wrestling, all that motivates me has been changed.

- Q: While still developing the body?
- A: Correct, you understand the edges. The body must be made to obey the wishes of the mind. Additionally, the body must be honed and developed so it can handle the demanding wishes of the mind. Few can handle this. Thus far, only Roddy Piper understands.
- Q: Roddy, this has been an interesting interview. Thanks for coming.

# INSIDE WRESTLING'S

These Ratings Are Compiled With The Assistance Of Top Wrestlers, Promoters, And Reporters. They Are Universally Accepted As Official

World Wrestling Federation



Champion: BOB BACKLUND



1—STAN HANSEN

American Wrestling Association



Champion: VERNE GAGNE



1—NICK BOCKWINKEL

Wrestling Alliance



Champion: HARLEY RACE

1—ANDRE THE GIANT



1-RODDY PIPER

2—BRUNO SAMMARTINO

Most Popular Wrestlers

Most Hated Wrestlers



1—STAN HANSEN



2—SGT. SLAUGHTER





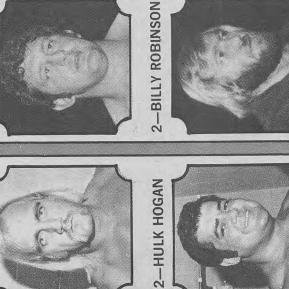
1—IVAN KOLOFF & RAY STEVENS



UGHTER

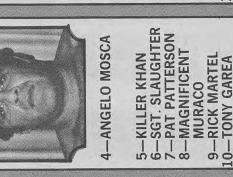






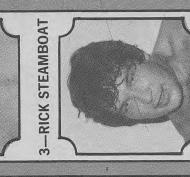






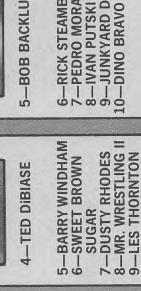
4-DINO BRAVO





3—JOHN STUDD





6-RICK STEAMBOAT 7-PEDRO MORALES

9—JUNKYARD DOG

7—MAD DOG VACHON

6—JIM BRUNZELL BLACKWELL 5-CRUSHER

10-KERRY VON ERICH

10-ADRIAN ADONIS 8—TITO SANTANA 9—GREG GAGNE

8—IVAN PUTSKI





5-BOB BACKLUND





3-KILLER KHAN

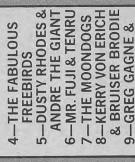
3—DUSTY RHODES

2-TONY ATLAS





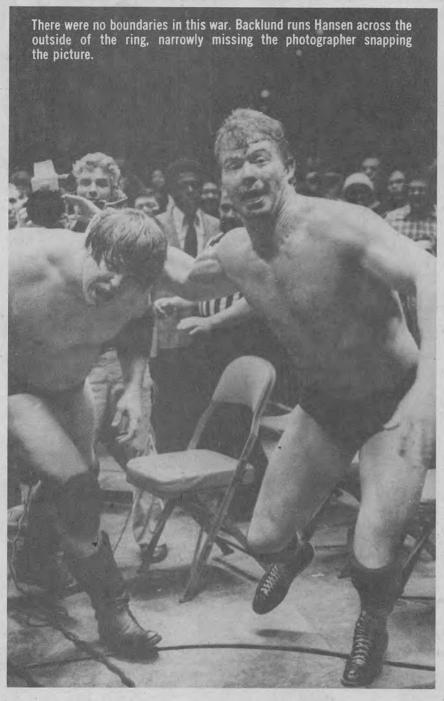
3—JESSE VENTURA & ADRIAN ADONIS



JIM BRUNZELL

10-THE BOUNTY

HUNTERS



**Bob Backlund** vs. Stan Hansen: THE BLOODY BATTLE

LL TOO OFTEN, Bob Backlund hears how this latest foe is the toughest he will ever face in his career.

"Sometimes it's a case of people crying wolf," said Backlund, the WWF champion. "Sometimes people want to build someone up and say how rough and tough he is.

"Well, it's getting to the stage where I deal with everyone the same, anticipating that they'll all be rough and tough. Then along comes someone like Stan Hansen and he's even worse than I ever could imagine."

Arnold Skoaland, Backlund's shrewd manager, explains the process involved in readying his young champion for each foe.

"Right off, I want Bob to understand exactly who and what he'll be facing," said Skoaland. "I don't want him getting any false impressions or ideas and getting overconfident. That's probably my biggest fear.

"You have to understand, only the very best, and very meanest go after Bob. I know I might sound kind of redundant to Bob always telling him how mean and rough and vicious this guy is and that guy is, but I want him to be fully prepared.

"Naturally, that's in addition to the exhaustive scouting measures we use, both from films and from notes, to prepare us for each title match. But I'll admit that neither Bob nor I really, completely and fully,

appreciate the depths of Hansen's sadism. He is one

FOR WWF SUPREMAC



Both men appear to be stunned as the result of a mid-ring collision (above). Hansen prepares to pounce from the ring apron upon a bloody Backlund (right). mean man," said Skoaland.

Hansen scoffs at the Skoaland-Backlund method of preparation.

"They can take all the films they want," he said. "They can scout me out every second of the way. They can think they know exactly what I'm gonna do. Well, what they can't get through their idiotic heads is that the reason I'm so damn brilliant is that I'm unpredictable. They think like all the other challengers, that I'm gonna follow one way and one way only."

"The match they cheated me out of the title in just showed how damn stupid their way is. You can only scout so much. Skoaland can only tell Backlund so much. But no one can help Backlund once he gets into the ring, and that's when he needs the most help."

Their match in New York's

Madison Square Garden proved to be one of the goriest, most violent brawls ever. Each and every second was filled with violence. Neither man cared to hold back. More importantly, neither man

exhibited the slightest concern for their opponent's welfare.

Hansen never cares what must be done to defeat a foe.

"I don't look upon this as a sport, but as a substitute for (Continued on page 49)

This may be Bob Backlund's greatest challenge. Surely Stan Hansen, master of the infamous Lariat hold, poses a dangerous threat to Backlund's title reign. After this inhumanly bloody, savage battle which nearly shook down Madison Square Garden, WWF fans can look forward to the continuation of this brutal feud



# THERE ARE WRESTLERS who refuse to help youngsters looking to break into the sport. They will toss aside the letters requesting tips, pointers, or just friendly advice. Those wrestlers file such requests in a special cabinet. The garbage can.

And then there is Greg Gagne.
"I never turn my back on

anyone looking for help," said Gagne. "I really believe that if I'm lucky enough to be in the greatest sport in the world then I should share my luck with others. I've had a lot of people come to me asking for advice.

"Sometimes someone will drop by the gym where I work out and ask for some pointers. I don't think I've ever said no to anyone. But I guess I should've said no

# Nick Bockwinkel vs. Verne Gagne:

# HAS GREG GAGNE BETRAYED HIS FATHER?

Yes, Greg Gagne may have committed the ultimate sin: betraying his father. While it is not a conscious decision, Gagne's instinctive kindness to strangers and willingness to help all who ask for his aid indirectly aided the man who wants back the AWA title from Verne, Nick Bockwinkel

just that one time."

He said his name was Murray. Murray Bockberber, to be exact. He said he came from New York, Queens, New York, to be exact. He said he wanted to be a professional wrestler. A scientific wrestler, to be exact. And he said he wanted to learn one move.

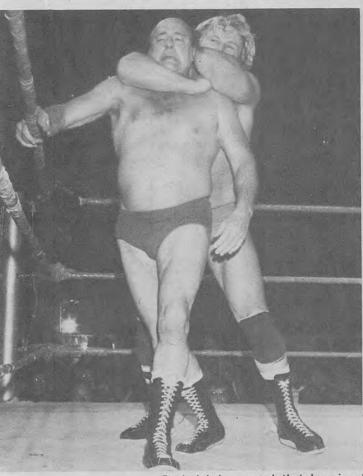
"The sleeperhold was the one he wanted," said Greg.

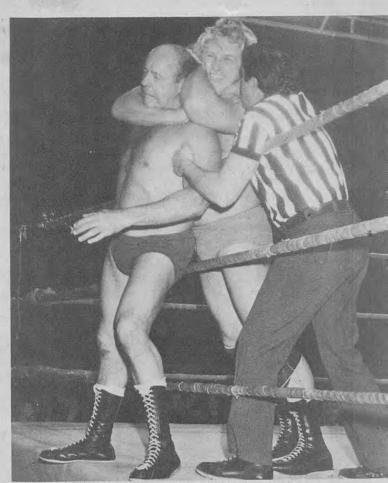
Gagne recalls that fateful encounter between himself and the heavyset, friendly youth.

"He came into the gym, all bug-eyed and everything," recollects Gagne. "He explained how he had moved to Minneapolis, that he loved cold weather, the scenery and all. Then he tells me how he was quite an accomplished amateur wrestler and wanted to get into pro wrestling.



Verne Gagne draws a shout of pain from Nick Bockwinkel as he increases the pressure on his wristlock.





Bockwinkel assumed that knowing the secret of the Gagne sleeperhold would automatically result in his regaining the AWA title. What he neglected to consider, however, is that a master of applying the sleeper is also a master at escaping the hold.

"I gave him the once-over and thought he looked like he could be a good wrestler. He appeared very bright, well-built with a tad of baby fat, and he had good speed. But most importantly, he was a nice kid, this Murray, or whatever his name is."

Gagne immobilizes Bockwinker with a figure-four armlock.

Gagne spent several days demonstrating the sleeperhold to Murray.

"What I find strange now, though I didn't and should've at the time, was the exhaustive notes he took on every aspect of the sleeper. He just explained he wanted to be able to go home and practice the maneuver. I didn't think anything of it."

Murray Bockberber did indeed go home every night. But not to the studio apartment he told Gagne he rented. No, Murray Bockberber, alias Murray Bockwinkel, went back to his uncle's palatial refreat each night.

Yup, the last name is no mere coincidence. Murray was Nick Bockwinkel's nephew, sent by the former AWA champion to spy on the Gagnes and learn the secret of the sleeperhold.

(Continued on page 64)

# NEWS FROM THE

If you would like your area of the country represented in these reports, while also being officially credited with your own by-line, send us reports of the matches you attend. You will have the thrill of seeing your name in an internationally known magazine while at the same time helping to improve the quality of wrestling in your area. So why not give it a try? You will be glad you did!

Send your reports to: Correspondent Editor, Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571.

# **DERBY, CT** By Gary Wisneski



TONY GAREA
vs.
THE HANGMAN



Popular Tony Garea battled The Hangman, Fred Blassie's European wrestler. The first eight minutes of the match was brilliant as both men unleashed maneuver after maneuver. But everyone knew The Hangman would resort to rule-breaking sooner or later, and he did, taking control through his treachery. Just as Garea got his strength back to normal in preparation for yet another round of war, the time limit bell rang, ending the match.

OTHER BOUTS: The Moondogs beat Dominic DeNucci and Rick McGraw . . . S.D. Jones defeated Ron Shaw . . . Stan Hansen stopped Ricky Stallone .

SAN ANTONIO, TX
By Robert Ortiz



VS.
CHAVO GUERRERO



Gino Hernandez discovered his opposition, Chavo Guerrero, was a bit more than he'd anticipated. Though International Junior Heavyweight Champion Hernandez displayed an incredible lack of dignity in evading Guerrero's every thrust, and though the crowd booed his cowardly tactics, Hernandez kept running, obviously afraid of Guerrero. About seven minutes into the match, Hernandez deliberately disqualified himself, the only way he could keep his title.

OTHER BOUTS: Billy Robinson defeated Tank Patton . . . Eddy Mansfield downed Scott Casey . . . Tiger Conway Jr. defeated Black Gordman.

ORLANDO, FL By Nick Boccuzzi



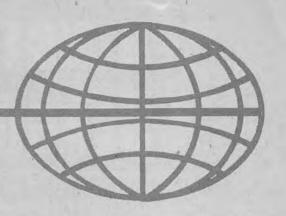
vs.
ASSASSIN #3



The main event saw Dusty Rhodes taking on the fiendish Assassin #3. The masked rulebreaker had an added advantage: tape around his hand concealing metal. Assassin #3 kept using rulebreaking tactics and, for a while, Rhodes kept his cool. Then Rhodes exploded and smashed Assassin #3 with a chair. Dusty had the masked man at his mercy when Baron Von Raschke jumped in. But Andre the Giant aided his buddy and, when all was said and done, Rhodes won by disqualification.

OTHER BOUTS: Andre the Giant stopped Baron Von Raschke . . . Bugsy McGraw beat Assassin #1 . . . Jack and Jerry Brisco manhandled R.T. Tyler and Bobby Jaggers .

# WRESTLING CAPITALS



DALLAS, TX By Shawn Hodges



KEVIN VON ERICH vs. KABUKI



Spectacular young superstar Kevin Von Erich took on the everdangerous Kabuki, managed by Gary Hart, in a thrilling main event. Shortly after the match began, Kabuki delivered a chop to Von Erich's chest, driving him back into the corner to catch his breath. An attempt at a Von Eric clawhold failed when Kabuki rubbed a foreign substance into the youngster's eyes. Recovering with an aerial move off the top rope resulting in a half cradle, Von Erich seemed to have a victory when Hart raced in and interfered. That gave Kevin Von Erich a victory by disqualification.

KINGSPORT, TN By Stoney McAninch



MASKED SUPERSTAR vs. RAY STEVENS



The main event pitted fan favorite Masked Superstar against archrival Ray Stevens. As the brutal battle exacted a fearsome toll on both men, Ray Stevens realized he would not get a clear-cut victory. Stevens showed his true colors by using illegal tactics, but alert fans pointed that out to Superstar, who counter-attacked. After a wild exchange, Masked Superstar came out on top and was declared the winner.

OTHER BOUTS: Ric Flair and Blackjack Mulligan won by disqualification over Roddy Piper and Ray Stevens . . . Mr. Fuji stopped an impressive Don Kernodle . . . Steve Muslin whipped Sgt. Jacques Goulet .

ATLANTA, GA
By Steve Hendrix



VS. TONY ATLAS



After undergoing a brief recovery process for his injured leg, a healthy Tony Atlas got his rematch against Harley Race. Even before Atlas could get off his Georgia heavyweight belt, Race attacked. A fired-up Atlas responded and bombarded Race with blows, weakening the NWA champion. It looked like curtains for Race as Atlas leaped upon him for the fall. However, Race put his foot on the ropes so Atlas let the champion up. Barely able to stand, Race raced back to the dressing room, giving Atlas the win by countout, but not the belt.

OTHER BOUTS: Andre the Giant whipped Mongolian Stomper.

# SPRINGTIME IN GEORGIA A SEASON OF VIOLENCE

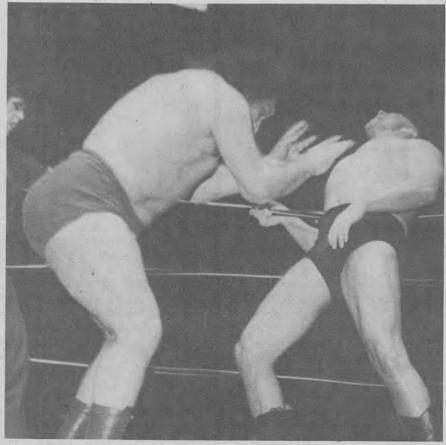
The spring wars batter and rage across the face of Georgia. All the greats are involved in long and short wars, in feuds and battles which could claim not only careers but their very lives. Yet the courage of these warriors is indisputable. Through exciting photos and accompanying interviews, the season of violence is explored

**PHOTOS BY EMMY YATES** 

# ANDRE THE GIANT VS. MONGOLIAN STOMPER

This was an especially violent match, illustrating the intense personal dislike felt by these two towering men for each other. Both men held nothing back, tearing after each other with a wide range of rough maneuvers. As it became apparent to all that Stomper would lose, his diabolical manager, Don Carson, raced into the ring. This unwarranted interference resulted in Stomper's disqualification and yet another triumph for Andre.

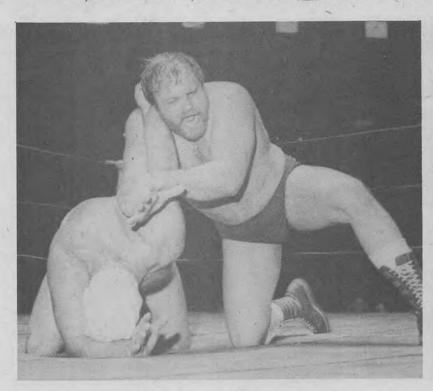




With Andre the Giant in complete control (applying a bearhug, left, and delivering a series of karate chops, above), Mongolian Stomper's manager, Don Carson, interfered, thus causing an immediate disqualification.

# MR. WRESTLING II VS. OLE ANDERSON

These two great wrestlers have had a long feud going. This was the night their hatred would be settled. But Ole Anderson wouldn't, or maybe just can't, wrestle cleanly. Each time Mr. Wrestling II attempted to keep the match on a scientific wrestling plateau, Anderson concocted yet another filthy, deceitful trick. Finally, Anderson went just a little too far and the referee awarded the decision to II by disqualification.



Ole Anderson and Mr. Wrestling II exchange armlocks (left and below), but that was hardly typical of the violence displayed in this match. Things got so bad that the referee had to eventually disqualify Anderson.



# **KEVIN SULLIVAN VS. STEVE KEIRN**

Ever since Kevin Sullivan broke from the Georgia scientific wrestling community and turned rulebreaker, Steve Keirn has been after him. Thus settling the dispute in a Boston Street Fight made perfect sense. There was amazing action, both inside and outside the ring. But to the deep disappointment of the capacity crowd, Sullivan's dazzling blend of roughness and agile maneuvers earned him a hard-fought decision over a dejected Steve Keirn.

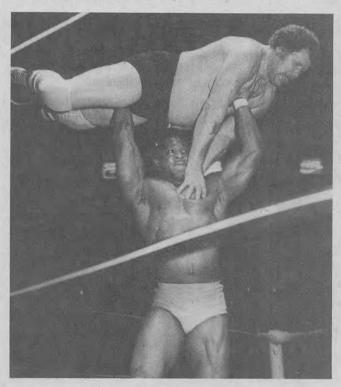




Steve Keirn finds himself a bit tied up during his Boston Street Fight with Kevin Sullivan (above left). Sullivan tries to take advantage of Keirn's position as he grabs a chair, but Steve alertly kicks the chair into Kevin's face (above right).

# HARLEY RACE VS. TONY ATLAS

Once again, courageous Tony Atlas set his sights on the NWA championship of Harley Race. And once again, Atlas' burning ambition to be champion of the world set his inner fuses and catapulted him into violence. Certainly Race doesn't avoid a brawl when he gets the chance. As a result, both men were counted outside the ring.



Before Tony Atlas could raise the NWA belt above his head, he figured he would have to do the same to the NWA champion (left). Race is counted out of the ring (below) as is his challenger.

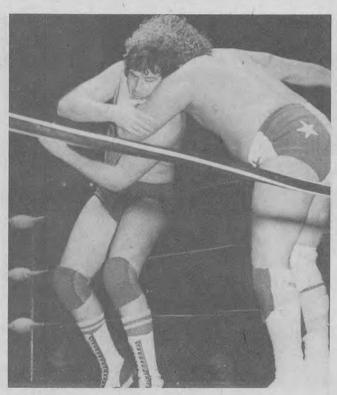


# ROBERT FULLER & TED DIBIASE VS. THE FABULOUS FREEBIRDS

At stake, the Georgia tag team title. Another intriguing aspect to this match was that Junkyard Dog was handcuffed to Michael Hayes, forcing the Freebird to take Dog with him wherever he went. Everytime Hayes tried to walk, the Dog sat him back down. Stripped of Hayes' brilliant unpredictability, The Freebirds simply couldn't halt the determined tandem of Fuller and DiBiase, but they did retain the title because of the disqualification rule.



Ted DiBiase and Robert Fuller display precision teamwork as they lock up Freebird Terry Gordy (above). DiBiase prepares to throw an elbow into Gordy's ribs (right).



# INSIDE WPESTLING

# SGT. SLAUGHTER

59 Capsule Profile

IS ENTIRE LIFE reeks of sadism and cruelty ("I am tough and if you gotta be cruel to be tough and gotta be sadistic to be tough and get orders followed, then I'll be damned if I won't be tough") . . . For many years, he was a drill instructor in the United States Marine Corps ("Ah, the life, ordering 80-mile hikes with full equipment and commanding 300 pushups and inflicting latrine duty. Who wouldn't love?")... Either left the Marines because he felt the Corps too soft or had to leave for excessive cruelty ("Don't have men anymore. Any man who can't run 30 miles while carrying a rifle and singing 'God Bless America' ain't fit to be in the Marines") Once the decision had been made to leave the armed forces, he entered professional wrestling ("It's rough, it's savage, it's mean, it's where a real man can triumph and doesn't have to worry about nursing some

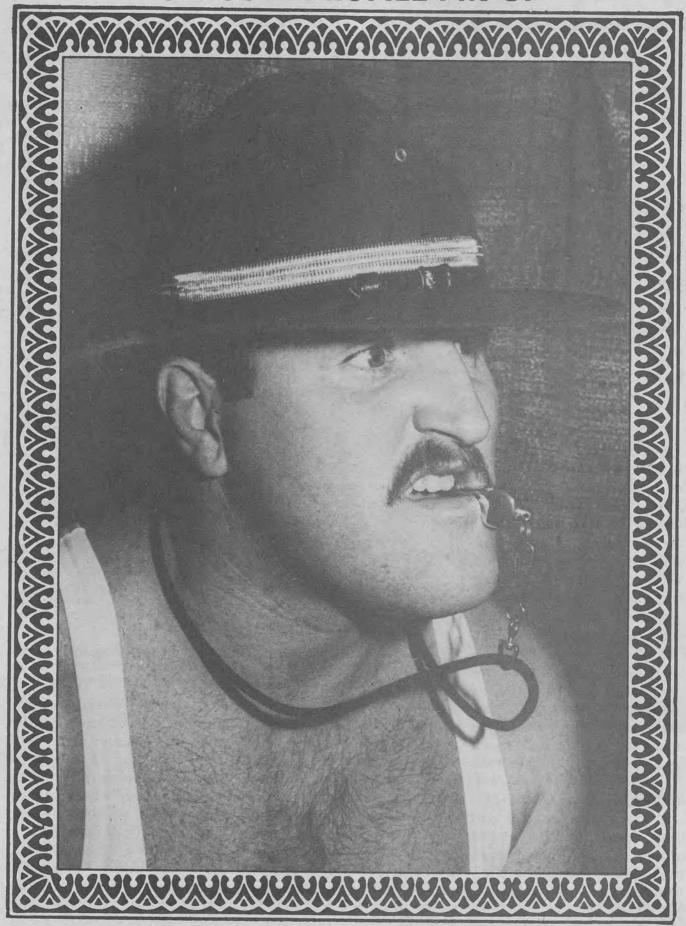


Sgt. Slaughter ducks under a charging Bob Backlund in their Madison Square Garden title match. Slaughter is rumored to have been discharged from the Marine Corps for excessive cruelty, though he claims to have quit because the men were too soft.

punk kids complaining their chests hurts") . . . Quickly signed up by The Grand Wizard, the pair have proven to be extraordinarily effective together ("Me and The General know each other, we understand each other, we're both brilliant and ruthless and ambitious and will do anything needed, make any sacrifices to whip these punks into shape") . . . Already his use of the Cobra

Clutch has taken on mythic proportions ("I invented the Cobra Clutch to drill recruits. Now I'll use it to drill opponents until they learn to obey every one of my orders without hesitation") . . . Right now feuding Bruno Sammartino, with Bob Backlund, and Pat Patterson ("None of the three stooges will ever live long enough to break out of the Cobra Clutch").

# **CAPSULE PROFILE PIN-UP**



SGT. SLAUGHTER

# WHERE MOW? ARE THEY MOW?

Each day, out of the thousands of letters we receive, hundreds of them are from fans asking the whereabouts of their favorite wrestler. In this special column, we will try to answer the questions you ask the most!



# **LOU THESZ**

The legendary master of scientific wrestling has returned, most recently to the Memphis area. Unable to withstand retirement, Thesz wants to re-enter the wrestling wars and demonstrate the grace and dignity which has earned him the love and admiration of millions of fans.

# MANNY FERNANDEZ

The ever-popular aerial expert has returned to Florida and, rather quickly, seized the Florida TV title from evil Baron Von Raschke. Fernandez's style makes him a fan favorite. He is kind to the fans, cooperative with the press, and friendly with his peers.





# MIL MASCARAS

Brilliant and decent, Mil Mascaras invades the soverign state of Texas. Bringing the masked man into Texas is Gary Hart and his stable of fiendish rulebreakers. But Mascaras has never been one to shy away from a battle. He vows to destroy Hart and his whole diabolical family.

# TARZAN TYLER

The former co-holder of the WWF tag team title with Crazy Luke Graham, Tyler has been making periodic visits to Canada. In his inimitable style, Tyler spreads destruction and fear wherever he goes. As all Canadian fans will realize, Tyler has not changed. He is the same evil man he ever was.



# MIE O



(Once upon a time, they were a fearsome combination, Hulk Hogan and manager Fred Blassie. Between Hogan's enormous size and physical skills and Blassie's twisted genius, they appeared on the verge of conquering the WWF and Bob Backlund. But Hogan's moment of greatness and Blassie's sweet triumph never materialized. Instead, Hogan has tried other areas, all the while keeping his gaze upon Backlund's belt. Such wanderings apparently irritate Blassie, who insists his man will eventually get the long-awaited title shot at Madison Square Garden if he's patient. Now the two discuss these and other matters on ONE ON ONE.)



FRED BLASSIE:

Hulk, how are you, where you callin' from?

FB: Oh, well, I know you been travelin' around a little, givin'

**HULK HOGAN:** 

Right here in the WWF, you

know that.

Oh, well, I know you been travelin' around a little, givin' the airlines and buses some heavy business.

Every month the telephone wires will crackle as two top grapplers rage and argue. We'll print the unedited transcript of their conversations, giving the fans a privileged glimpse at wrestlers which can be found nowhere else



HH: Not that much, I gotta keep all options open.

FB: Well, don't you worry, you got Blassie. Blassie takes care of his own. You don't have to run anywhere else. We're the tops, the best, he can't duck us. He'll have to come up with the dough, the world will demand it. Don't you worry one bit.

HH: Has there been any further word on that, the money issue?

FB: No, no, he won't meet our price. He and Skoaland need any excuse they can lay their fat little hands on to deny Fred Blassie the WWF championship. It won't work, we'll get it, you'll see.

HH: Maybe we should lower our

FB: Why? Give in to blackmail from cowards? You think that's how I made my reputation, that's the reason I am feared throughout the world, recognized as a genius, because I give in to

HH: Come on, Fred, you know, I'd really like to get that title shot at Madison Square Garden.

FB: You will, you will. Have patience.

HH: I've had a lot of patience.

FB: Ah, the impatience of the young, always wantin' everything right now, not realizin' you have to wait your turn, pay your dues, keep on workin' and listenin' to the man who knows best, me, Fred Blassie. I promised you



Blassie proudly displays his superstar, the Incredible Hulk Hogan, a few months back when their relationship was secure (above). Hogan assumed his strong showing in Madison Square Garden against Andre the Giant (below) would lead to a title shot with Bob Backlund in the big arena. He was wrong—and now he feels he was slighted.



a shot in the Garden, you'll get it, on our terms, our way, that's the way champions act. We don't give in to nobody, only bums and has-beens and never-wases give in, not Fred Blassie.

HH: How much longer do you think it'll be?

**FB:** I'm working on it. Have I ever done you wrong?

HH: No.

FB: Have I ever turned my back on you, not taken care of you, not helped you and counseled you and advised you and made you into what you are today, the best, the greatest, the future champion of the world.

HH: Can I ask you something, then?

FB: Anything, son, anything at all.

HH: Well, how come you were able to get Stan Hansen a title shot in the Garden and not me.

**FB:** Different circumstances, completely different circumstances.

HH: How so?

FB: Well, I don't like to compare my wrestlers. I love you, I love Stan, you're both great, I treat you equally but differently, you both have your skills and your strong points. It's Backlund who looks at things differently.

**HH:** Could you explain, Fred, I mean, I'm kinda torn up by all this and kinda confused.

FB: I know, and I'll take care of you, I won't let anything happen to you, I understand you're hurt by Howdy Doody and Fat-Boy Skoaland duckin' you. For whatever the cowards' reasons, they accepted our offer for Hansen but not for you.

HH: Why?

FB: Why, why, think I can read the minds of snakes, think I can understand rats, think I can look inside the empty skull of Backlund and Skoaland and find meaning? I can't, they did, that's all, they have their reasons. They're afraid of Blassie, they're afraid of Hogan, they'll have to give in eventually. Don't worry, your name will be up in those lights, all the world will see you, they'll understand my greatness and your greatness and we'll go into the history books, a famous team, a great team, inspired and guided by my brilliance.

HH: Is that the only reason I haven't gotten the shot, the money issue?

FB: Of course, why else?

HH: I don't know, just thinkin'. □

# Bob Backlund · Stan Hansen

(Continued from Page 35)



Already bleeding profusely, Backlund makes sure Hansen is at the same disadvantage as he rams his head into the metal ringpost (above). Backlund tries to summon the strength to execute a suplex (below). It took two referees to hold Hansen back (right) after the match was stopped due to excessive bleeding by both men.



war," said Hansen. "This is a brutal sport and it's only lames like Backlund who complain.

"You never hear a guy like me whining about the sport being too tough or action getting a little out of hand, do you? Nope, it's the Backlunds and Sammartinos of the world who can't take the heat.

"So what if things get a little rough? Does Backlund expect me to hold back? Hell, I'm in that ring for one reason, to whip Backlund's butt all over town and walk away with the title. Only thing that amazes me is someone ain't whipped his hide before. He and Skoaland must pay awful lot of dough to keep on bribing the officials so they'll let Backlund get away with all that cheating and other stuff he pulls."

What was interesting was Backlund's ability to match



Hansen, violent maneuver for violent maneuver. This is yet another step in the champion's capacity to adapt to the unique skills of his foes.

"When I first started, I really didn't want to brawl," said Backlund. "I didn't think it was befitting of a champion to slosh around in bloodshed. But I've matured and I realize that you have to get down in the gutter every now and then, no matter how distasteful you might find it, if you ever want to keep your title.

"I won't purposely try and maim someone. That I would never do, I just don't care, it isn't right and I won't do it because I couldn't look at myself in the mirror. But I do understand that when I'm wrestling someone like Hansen, things will get violent, and, if I want to keep my title. I'd better learn how to do it.

"I guess I've been learning pretty well. You did happen to see who walked off with the belt this time around, didn't you?" Backlund asked, winking.



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# BEHIND THE DRESSING ROOM DOOR

(Continued from Page 10)

for Social Security. You want to know how it feels to be challenging for a title at my age. Basically, you want to know how the heck I do it."

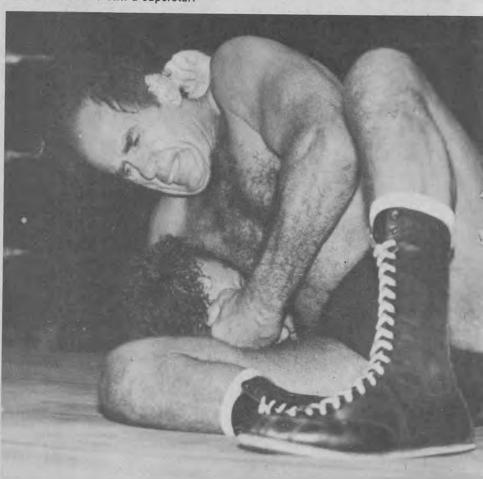
At that point I wasn't sure if I was more impressed with Lou Thesz the man or Lou Thesz the physical marvel. It was close.

For professional wrestling, 1937 was a monumental year. It was in December of that year that Lou Thesz won the NWA title for the first of six times. That he could be challenging Billy Robinson for the CWA title 33 years later boggles the mind. It makes you believe in immortality.

"That's a lot of bunk," he said.

"There's no such thing as immortality. But there is such a thing as caring about yourself. You know, it's amazing how little regard a man has for his own body. When you are young, you really do think you're immortal. You can't relate to old age, so you can't comprehend the importance of taking care of yourself. My first wrestling coach got to me early. I was lucky. I always took care of myself. Never smoked. Always got a lot of rest. And I took a drink only on special occasions. There's really nothing mystical. Just eat the right foods and never stop exercising, and you

The man can only be described as incredible. He is agile, he is resilient, his muscles are firm. He is also 65 years old. Lou Thesz is a medical marvel, though he doesn't think so. The key to staying young, he says, is taking care of yourself. CWA Champion Billy Robinson, looking for a way out of Thesz's headlock, will certainly vouch for the fact that Thesz is still a superstar.



can keep yourself young for a long time.

It all made sense to me. Until I thought about what kind of exercise this man is doing. We're talking professional wrestling, not 20 jumpingjacks and 50 situps in the morning.

Dr. Kyle Maxim explained the phenomenon the best he could. 'Quite often we make the mistake of judging a person's age strictly by the numbers," he said. "However, there is a great deal of validity to the old saying that you're only as old as you feel. You can't say that Lou Thesz is unfit to wrestle just because of his age. I've examined the man and he literally has the body of a 35year-old man. I'll admit men like Lou Thesz are rare, but he certainly is not a god. He's just a man who has led a good, clean life and is now reaping the benefits."

Remarkable.





















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# **BODYSLAMS & PINFALLS**

(Continued from Page 12)



Junkyard Dog was voted "Inspirational Wrestler of the Year" for wrestling Michael Hayes while suffering from temporary blindness. In that match, however, Hayes' spine was seriously injured and he continued to wrestle. Shocket feels Michael is the inspirational wrestler of all time.

or total paralysis. He shouldn't be wrestling at all. It would be suicidal for him to wrestle regularly."

"Suicidal means killing oneself. Do you mean to use that word?"

"I choose my words very carefully."

The doctor got up and walked to his files. He took out the one marked "Hayes, Michael" and handed it to me.

"This is everything you have to know about Hayes. He suffered the injury against Buck Robley. It was re-injured by Junkyard Dog. There's a description of the injury, my diagnosis and treatment. I want you to take it to any doctor you wish. I want you to get another opinion. When this becomes public, every fact should be checked and doublechecked by people you trust. We're dealing here with a man's career, a man's life.

"As you know, Hayes is proud to the point of being foolish. If the fans keep riding him, sooner or later he'll start wrestling fulltime. That will surely result in a catastrophe. When he's in a wheelchair, fan sympathy won't mean a thing.

"This way, the fans will know. I hope they'll stop daring him to wrestle more often. If not, then they'll have the man's ruined life on their consciences.

"As a doctor, I took a vow to protect and preserve human life if they could afford my exorbitant fees. Going public with Hayes' condition is the best way I know to protect the man's life. It may ruin my career. Well, a career isn't worth much if you can't save those you treat."

The extent of Dr. Fraser's courage was revealed when I went to other doctors with the file. All are top men in

the field of sports medicine, all have excellent reputations, but none would allow their names to be used. As one man said, "To be honest, I don't have Fraser's guts. I don't think a single athlete will go to him after this. He may be saintly, but he's ruined. I'm not saintly. I'll give you my opinion, but I'll sue you for every cent you have if you use my name."

To a man, every doctor agreed with Fraser's diagnosis. Hayes shouldn't be wrestling at all.
Certainly, he must not wrestle on a regular basis. In time, with the proper care, the injury should heal.
Without the proper care, every doctor agreed Hayes will be walking with a cane by age 40.

Dr. Fraser came to me because of my reputation for admiring rulebreakers. He hoped my printing the information would quell any suspicions that the information was leaked by Hayes' enemies. Michael may not know it, but Dr. Fraser is the best friend he'll ever have.

As might be expected, Hayes refused any comment on the story. He claims his neck is fine. That he doesn't wrestle often is part of a "Freebirds' secret plan. If I tell you about it," Hayes said, "then it wouldn't be secret."

Now it's up to the fans.
They can jeer and drive a man to paralysis and perhaps death. Or, they can rise above partisanship and protect a man from himself.

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# SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page 14)



Paul Jones and Masked Superstar must be punished for turning their backs on former friends like Jimmy Snuka, whom they are double-teaming (above).

friends and the wonderful way of rulebreaking?

I, for one, wouldn't want vermin and crud like Jones and Superstar coming back to rulebreaking. Who needs them? I think men like The Andersons and Hussein Arab and Ivan Koloff are a lot better off without turncoat friends like Jones and Superstar.

Let the NWA tag team champions, and they probably won't be once this letter appears, associate with fellow rats and crud like Rick Steamboat and Ric Flair. We, the real fans in the Mid-Atlantic area, could give a hoot less about the champions and only wait for the glorious moment when they are dethroned and tossed out of the area, once and for all.

> VERNON NASALBAUM Sumter, SC

## WELCOME BACK, LOU

My, my, it surely did my heart good to see Lou Thesz returning to the wrestling wars. His match against Bill Robinson for the CWA title was pure delight. I think Thesz still has a great deal to give to the



Imagine how many autographs Lou Thesz must have signed through his career.

game. He is surely the equal of any other wrestler 10 years his junior.

His experience, his cunning and his vast well of skills make Thesz a great wrestler and a great man. I hope this is just another step on the road back for Lou Thesz toward a world championship title.

> VINNIE CASTELLANO Kansas City, KS

## HOPES FOR EDDIE

In my humble opinion, I think Eddie Gilbert is going to the number one wrestling superstar inside of one year. Already he is showing the sort of genius and courage men much older have never shown.

Some guvs have it and some guys don't. Certainly Gilbert has an instinctive talent and glow about him which sets the youngster apart from all other wrestlers. Today Memphis, tomorrow the world.

> BERNARD MARTIN Memphis, TN

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# INSIDER

(Continued from Page 18)



Ever hear of a hungry athlete? The term has been applied in the past to Bugsy McGraw. But it was meant to imply that Bugsy had a great desire to succeed. Did he really eat an American flag? We doubt it.

Well, something put that lady from Pierre in the hospital, And something sent Mancosi to the police station with a report of what he claimed to have seen.

What does the Masked Grappler have to say about all this fuss?

"I really look like a combination of Robert Redford and John Travolta," he said via telephone. "The only reason I wear a mask is so that Hollywood won't mob me with offers to make the remake of "Gone With The Wind!"

Needless to say, we'll keep digging to find out the truth in this bizarre story. Stu Saks just flew down to New Orleans to talk with police and mental health officials. Gary Morgenstein is flying to Pierre to interview the woman when she arrives home. The big question

remains: Is there more to the Masked Grappler than meets the eye?

# RUMOR VS. FACT

RUMOR: Florida fan favorite Bugsy McGraw had to have his stomach pumped in a Tampa hospital after eating an entire American flag!

FACT: While we all know how patriotic Bugsy is, we somehow doubt this story. Especially since it came from the same source who told us McGraw flew to Iran and spent a week with the hostages last summer. Love ya, Bugger.

RUMOR: Junkyard Dog is considering retiring from the squared circle to become a stand-up comedian in the Catskill Mountain resort hotels in New York.

FACT: Anyone who knows Dog is aware of his sharp sense of humor. (His Christmas card last year featured a picture of him decorating a Christmas tree in the middle of a junkyard). But he is not leaving wrestling.

"I did some comedy before I started wrestling," he admitted. "But I stopped when I realized I could be more beneficial to society as a wrestler." Good man, Dog. Keep hounding those rulebreakers.

# INJURY REPORT

DAVID VON ERICH was conducting a television interview when the insidious KABUKI attacked him and kicked one of his teeth out! The incident will not keep Von Erich out of action, however.

PEDRO MORALES has complained of recent stomach



Pedro Morales sinks into his corner, suffering from severe stomach cramps. The cause of the cramps was unknown, but they did keep the Intercontinental champion out of action a number of days.

cramps during matches in the WWF. "It got so bad during one match last week," Morales said, "that I had to cancel my match the following night. The promoter asked me to wrestle, but I had to tell him, 'No mas, no more."

That's it for this month. Catch you later.

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# ON THE ROAD

(Continued from Page 8)

Europeans and the Saudi Arabian faction wanted to dictate the terms of power. Originally, there had been a Russian faction, acting completely on its own, without any backing from the Soviet government.

"However, there was such bickering within the Russian faction and such intemperate demands for power that it was decided, by the Europeans and Saudi Arabians, to oust the Russians from power. Still, there was a breach between the two groups. There had to be a side both trusted, someone to bridge the gap. Only a man of The Sheik's reputation could do this.

"Thus The Sheik brought messages between the groups. acting as a mediator. It was thus established that there would be a committee of three, The Sheik, a European, and a Saudi Arabian, none of whom were professional wrestlers."

I sat fascinated, unable to move. Fine, the contours were set. But why???

"It is, in the end, a question of nationalism. It is quite invigorating for people of a nation to read about one of their own winning a major championship. It brings pride and joy to these people. They felt that. with Hussein Arab and Baron Von Raschke as champions, Arab in the Mid-Atlantic and Von Raschke in Florida, their own nations could swell their chests with pride.

"It is always quite amazing. even to me, to see what millionaires will do with their money. This entire affair took 15 months to arrange. Now Von Raschke and Arab have unlimited funds to pursue their nations' dreams."

I slumped back into the chair, drained. Everything suddenly made sense, from the secret meetings to the ousting of Koloff from the international syndicate to The Sheik's visits to Florida when Von Raschke was present. Everything made perfect, terrifying sense.

But I still wanted to know why this man went public with

his story.

"Quite frankly, I don't feel international money has any place in American wrestling. I don't think it belongs, quite frankly. I was hoping that by publicizing this story, those millionaires in their foreign nations might get frightened and stop supporting Von Raschke and Arab. We'll have to wait and see."

I asked one final question: Are you afraid of reprisals?

"Oh, well, I might imagine someone might want to come after me. But I am not alone. Already we, in America, have an organization dedicated to keeping foreign interests out of sports, allowing the individual to wrestle on his own merits. We have been quite diligent, oh, I rather doubt anyone will be able to get close to me.

"We know this will be a long struggle, a concerted effort to turn back the likes of Von Raschke and Arab and even Koloff and Volkoff, and all those who look beyond our shores for assistance. But, in the end, we will triumph. This country never turns anyone away. We want all to receive a fair shake, to win or lose on their own skills. Yes, I rather think that is the greatest principle of this nation."

And so I left this man and walked to the Lincoln Memorial. As the sun set, I sat on the steps and cried. 



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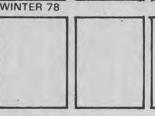


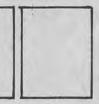














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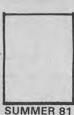


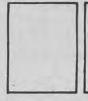




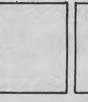


























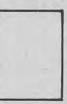




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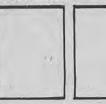
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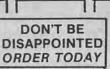


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# **BUSTY RHODES**

(Continued from Page 27)

say the least. It took only a few minutes to make a decision. There really was no choice involved.

"Well, I'm gonna do it," said Rhodes. "I guess I'm gonna have to do it."

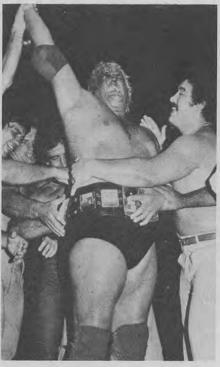
Rhodes clasped his fingers.

"Sometimes a man has to do things in life he just doesn't want to do. And I want to say this very, very carefully so all the people who know me and my ways and my principles don't think I've sold out or am doin' somethin' that I shouldn't be doin' just because I'm under pressure or whatever."

Never was Dusty Rhodes a happier man than when his comrades wrapped the NWA championship belt around his waist (right). His quest to regain the title met with such painful frustration that he decided he no longer wished to challenge for the title as long as it belonged to Harley Race. Dusty gets a measure of revenge against Terry Funk for breaking his arm (below).

Rhodes paused, his energies returning and coloring his face.

"Yeah, I guess the only way I'll ever settle anything with that bum is in the ring. As wonderful





as all my fans are, their letters don't settle the issue. Listenin' to Race shoot off his big, ugly, stupid mouth don't settle nothin'. And all the directives and contracts and whatevers from the NWA don't mean a hill of beans in this world unless I'm the one who makes the decision.



Even without the title, Dusty feels there is much to accomplish in wrestling as long as rulebreakers like Mark Lewin (above) still exist. The NWA proclaimed that Dusty must meet Race or face an early retirement.

"So what could I do? Maybe I look foolish always sayin' how I won't wrestle Race. Maybe it just isn't fair to my fans and me to let that slob get away shootin' off his stupid mouth and disgracin' a title all the world knows rightfully belongs to me.

"Maybe I should adecided and done this a long, long time ago. Once and for all, we're gonna have it out. I'm gonna show Race how bad he really is. No more war of words. This is it. Once and for all, we're gonna find out who's the champion.

"And only one of us is gonna leave that ring. Alive."

Rhodes punched the locker, the echoing ring racing about the otherwise silent dressing room. Dusty Rhodes was ready.

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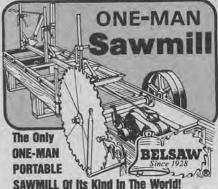
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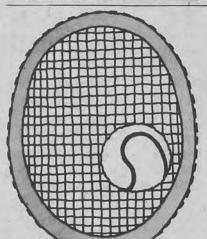
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GREG GAGNE
(Continued from Page 37)

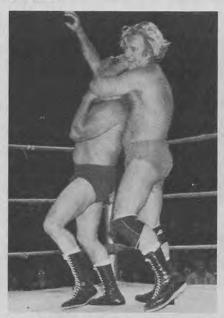
"Man, I couldn't believe what I'd done," said Gagne. "I couldn't believe how I hurt my father like that. I, I would never have hurt my dad like that, never. If I'd just known, darn, I'd like to get my hands on that Murray character and show him what I really think of him."

But Greg couldn't locate Murray. Neither could anyone else. Bockwinkel, gleeming with delight over his perfect caper, explained about Murray.

"He was always my favorite nephew," said Nick. "Now that he pulled this off, he will always be number one nephew as far as I'm concerned. Well, maybe I should describe the genesis of this brilliant plan to once more demonstrate the vast superiority of the Bockwinkel mind.

"Me and Bobby Heenan decided the best way to whip old man Verne was by using his own maneuver on him. We called up Murray back East and asked if he'd be willing to help us out.

Ah, he's such a good kid, he said he'd do anything to help me and get rid of that punk Gagne. Both of 'em.



Verne escaped this particular attempted sleeper (above) by whipping his right elbow back into Bockwinkel's ribs. Bockwinkel tries to execute a piledriver, but Gagne pushes him forward into the ropes before Nick can yank him over (below). Gagne is probably the finest defensive wrestler alive.





Gagne leaves the ring with the AWA belt still in his possession. Bockwinkel must now devise a new plan to regain the title.

"I instructed Murray on what to do and how to take down as much of the maneuver as possible. But Murray amazed me. I knew Greg Gagne was stupid, but I didn't realize he'd be this stupid. Guess it runs in the family.

"Anyway, now that I've got the sleeperhold down perfect, I can predict with all accuracy and confidence that Verne Gagne's days as AWA champion are numbered. It is just a matter of time before I put him to sleep once and for all and reclaim the throne unjustly taken from me."

Verne was a great deal less angry than Greg. In fact, he seemed amused.

"Obviously Bockwinkel is getting desperate," he said. "He has to send his nephew, that is funny. Maybe he'd be better off sending his nephew to wrestle me for the title. Bockwinkel can't master the sleeperhold. It's taken me years to get it perfect. I think Nick Bockwinkel is in for a rude shock. When he wakes up, I'll tell him all about it."



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GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D., is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Remisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband avin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing Santial, the newsletter of the Church of vicea, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have ap-peared in such national publications as Midnight and the National Enquirer.

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